

SATURDAY MORNING LIVE FOR OCTOBER 28, 2017 ~
“WE’RE LIVE – WE’RE ABOUT LIBERTY – WE’RE FOCUSED ON YOU!”

Today’s Show:

Host Kris Halterman will be the local Whatcom County election. The audience will be encouraged to call-in with their questions and comments on, “What are your concerns, your vision, and your solutions for Whatcom County and our neighboring counties?”

LIBERTY ALERTS:

Ballots are out and it is time to vote.

READ PUBLIC DISCLOSURES:

Voter Registration deadline: Oct. 30th – 4:30 PM, at the Auditor’s Office for first time and new residents to Washington State.

Voters cannot write-in a candidate for a District or Race “if they ran in the Primary Race for that position.”

COMMON CENTS:

MESSAGE TO WHATCOM COUNTY VOTERS:

You know...The **first step to recovery** is to get informed... go to events that not only entertain you... they inform You.

The **second step to recovery** is to get motivated and involved ... *showing up* ... show you care ... getting motivated will make a difference.

When you care about your future to live – work – and play in Whatcom County, that starts with elected leadership that shares those values and concerns.

The **middle-class** ... Whatcom County ... ignored and wiped-out by the many things I mentioned at the start of tonight’s program ... we need ...

- The ability to access our plentiful **Water**
- The use of our **Land** ... **responsibly and productively** to benefit the owner and the community
- To Plan for and Fund for ... **Growth** ... ensures we can stay here
- To Approve for the use of our **Resources** ... to develop and build **Affordable Housing**
- To support our great Schools ... so the students that graduate here have the option to stay here ... because ... **opportunity and growth are here**

- To Promote an environment that *welcomes* **Business Opportunity**; ... that resists taxes and regulations
- To Support our **Industries at Cherry Point** and *encourages their growth*
- That Supports **our Farms and our Farmers**, ... uses their knowledge on how to *feed the community & the feed the world*
- Supports our **Ports** ... with the necessary tools to attract new business ... *stimulate growth* ... increase our import goods ... and export of local products

Whatcom County needs leadership that understands all of that.

We need every one of you to vote ... to get-out-the-vote ... call your friends ... family ... neighbors ... **remind them to vote**...

‘Especially those who live-in newly created Whatcom County districts of 4 & 5.’

As important as voting is...it is not enough...which is **why Common Threads NW has committed itself to bring local groups together on the issues that bind us together.** ... Please stay involved...stay informed...and **support groups like CTNW** so we can continue to sponsor events like this ‘and’ more. It is our goal to reach everyone in Whatcom ... Skagit ... and Island County To do that we need to stand together for the things that unite us.

This is such a great place ... we call it Home... We want to **Live – Work – and Play ... in Whatcom County.**

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Oct. 24th, 2017 Council Action:

[Whatcom County Consent Agenda Items: Oct. 24th meeting in the Council Chambers:](#)

Item 2. [Additional funding for RE Sources waste reduction classes](#), in the amount of **\$50,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$170,000** (AB2017-306) Approved 6 – 1 (Brenner opposed)
Pages 133 – 138

Item 3. [Additional funding from WC to Cascadia Law Group PLLC to conduct the study and make recommendations required by Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan Policy 2CC-16](#), in the amount of **\$25,000, for a total amended contract amount of \$65,000** (AB2017-301) Approved 6 -1 (Brenner opposed)
Pages 139 - 144

Recap: Lake Whatcom Water Sewer District - Special Watershed Taxing District on the Consent Agenda for Oct. 25th, 2017 Meeting...

There was a letter drafted by Commissioner Todd Citron to state that the LWWSD would support the adoption of a "special watershed taxing district," placed upon the properties in the Lake Whatcom Watershed.

The audience questioned:

What will the costs be?

What will the funds be used for?

Will this fund solve the problem?

Is phosphorus the problem?

What causes a lack of DO (dissolved oxygen) in the lake?

Have you read, understand, and considered the science behind the studies of Lake Whatcom, the '3' basins, and lake water stratification?

Isn't this a county-wide issue?

Is it legal to create a special storm-water taxing district when the issue is a state-mandate?

There was a lot of discussion and there weren't a lot of answers on how much is it going to cost, what will the money be spent for, and will it resolve the issue of impaired water from low DO? These are the final comments and votes from the LWWSD Commissioners, on sending the letter to the Whatcom County Council and Executive:

Commissioner Bruce Ford: Opposed to sending the letter now. Need to know more. Is it legal? And I'd be more in line to approve a county-wide taxing district.

Commissioner John Carter: I'm generally supportive of the letter, but I need more information from the Council.

Running unopposed for reelection to the LWWSD Commission.

Commissioner Laura Weide: I'm generally supportive of the letter, but I need more information from the Council.

Commissioner Todd Citron: I'm supportive to send the letter, because we (the Lake Whatcom Watershed property owners) contribute greatly to the problem, benefit from living there, and we should bear more of the costs. *Running unopposed for reelection to the LWWSD Commission.*

Commissioner Curtis Casey: Absent *Running unopposed for reelection to the LWWSD Commission.*

The Board agreed to table their decision until after these questions and more discussion could be achieved. They will be having a special meeting on Nov. 18th at 6 PM. This will be a public meeting, open to public comments.

2017 WC Election Ballot Issues:

[Public Safety and Jail Facilities Sales and Use Tax:](#) 2/10ths of one-percent; which excludes the sale tax on automobiles here (Example: this equals \$0.20 on the purchase of \$100.00). The funds collected will pay for construction, operation, and maintenance of the new jail (476 beds) and help to fund improved community-based mental health treatment, detox, and other efforts towards the prevention of placing people in jail. Half of the tax will expire after the construction bond for the building of the jail is paid-off.

[Point Roberts Park & Rec Property Tax Levy:](#) A onetime levy to collect an additional \$300k needed on top of the previously collected \$540k to renovate the Julius Fire Hall into a new and larger public library.

[Blaine-Birch Bay Park & Rec Property Tax Levy:](#) A six-year levy to renew an existing tax levy of \$0.10 per \$1000 of property valuation. The funds are slated to be used for purchase property and the right-of-way for a hiking and

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biking trail between Blaine and Birch Bay in partnership with the Whatcom Land Trust. 11-acre parcel at the mouth of California Creek. Anticipate development of a small parking lot, restroom, interpretive trail and kayak launch, improve the pickle-ball courts, and assist funding other community projects.

[Columbia Valley Park & Rec Property Tax Levy](#): A six-year levy to fund the acquisition and development of community parks in the Columbia Neighborhood District. It is a \$0.60 per \$1000 valuation placed upon each property within the district. Currently there has been no funding appropriated for the newly formed taxing district.

[Lummi Island Park & Rec District Formation](#): A private group of citizens has gathered signatures asking the voters within this potentially new taxing district to approve its authority to be a taxing district. [WC Voters Pamphlet Info](#)

[Lummi Island Park & Rec Tax Levy](#): If the voters approve the formation of a new Lummi Island Parks and Rec District, they are also seeking to place a special tax of \$0.60 per \$1000 of valuation on all the properties within the newly formed taxing district. The purpose of this levy is to empower itself to purchase real estate, construct or develop buildings, and partner with other government entities in shared uses and joint agreements. The five-private citizens who worked to place all of this on the ballot are also seeking your vote to place them as Commissioners on a potential new taxing district. [WC Voters Pamphlet Info](#)

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